SECTION A. Project Title: Remote Handled Low Level Waste (RHLLW) Facility Radio Transmitters for Monitoring Wells

SECTION B. Project Description and Purpose:

The Remote Handled Low Level Waste (RHLLW) vault yard (B21-632) has about 22 monitoring wells, and each well has a data logger that obtains and stores well-specific data that is downloaded in the field. The proposed action installs a radio transmitter, surge protector, and antenna (< 2 ft. tall) on each data logger to allow remote download of well data.

SECTION C. Environmental Aspects or Potential Sources of Impact:

Air Emissions
Project activities have the potential to generate fugitive dust.

Disturbing Cultural or Biological Resources
Soil disturbing activities have the potential to impact biological and cultural resources.

Generating and Managing Waste
Industrial (non-hazardous, non-radioactive) waste such as wood, metal, wire insulation, etc. will be generated.

Releasing Contaminants
Typical construction chemicals such as fuels, lubricants, adhesives, paints, concrete, concrete cure, asphalt, refrigerants, etc., will be used and will be submitted to chemical inventory lists with associated Safety Data Sheets (SDS's) for approval in the vendor data system prior to use. The Facility Chemical Coordinator will enter these chemicals into the INL Chemical Management Database. All chemicals will be managed in accordance with laboratory procedures. Although not anticipated, there is a potential for spills when using chemicals or fueling equipment.

Using, Reusing, and Conserving Natural Resources
Recycled materials will be used to the greatest extent practicable in the selection of materials. All materials, including asphalt and concrete, will be reused and/or recycled where economically practicable. All applicable waste would be diverted from disposal in the landfill where conditions allow.

SECTION D. Determine Recommended Level of Environmental Review, Identify Reference(s), and State Justification:

For Categorical Exclusions (CXs), the proposed action must not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environmental, safety, and health, or similar requirements of Department of Energy (DOE) or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources (see 10 CFR 1021). In addition, no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal exist that would affect the significance of the action. In addition, the action is not “connected” to other action actions (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1) and is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1608.27(b)(7)).

References: 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B, B2.2 “Building and equipment instrumentation.”

Justification: Project activities are consistent with 10 CFR 1021, Appendix B, B2.2 “Installation of, or improvements to, building and equipment instrumentation (including, but not limited to, remote control panels, remote monitoring capability, alarm and surveillance systems, control systems to provide automatic shutdown, fire detection and protection systems, water consumption monitors and flow control systems, announcement and emergency warning systems, criticality and radiation monitors and alarms, a and security equipment).”

Is the project funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) ☐ Yes ☒ No

Approved by Jason Sturm, DOE-ID NEPA Compliance Officer on: 6/11/2018